



# SRMT Kawennì:ios

Helping Build a Better Tomorrow

Ohiarihko:wa / July 2009

## In this Issue

**New Loan Fund  
Available**  
Page 2

**Events around  
Akwasasne**  
Pages 4-5

**Blanding's  
Turtle Found in  
Akwasasne**  
Page 9

**Inauguration 2009**  
Pages 10-11

**Totek!**  
Page 12

**SLU Seeks Host  
Families**  
Page 14

## Good Words of Welcome,

Let me start by welcoming Mark Garrow as our newest member of Tribal Council. He is featured in this month's newsletter in the story on this year's inauguration. I also congratulate Sub-chief Stacy Adams and Tribal Clerk Corleen Jackson-Jacco on their successful re-elections.

Summer is finally here, kind of. It has been a rainy month of June and into the first few weeks of July. Let's hope those rainy days are behind us and we have a sunny rest of the summer.

June was also a challenging month for our community as we dealt with the closure of the bridge and Port of Entry on *Karwenoke*. The good news is that the situation has helped to unite the community as we support each other during this trying time.

This month's newsletter, once again, is full of helpful information. The Revolving Loan Fund story is about our efforts to better assist our business community by providing loans to them.

I hope you give a careful reading on the story about the request from St. Lawrence University for families to house their students. These students are willing to help our young people and we need to reciprocate and show them we are gracious hosts.

I acknowledge the good work of Steve Cook and Lindsay Tarbell from our Economic Development Office. This month saw the opening of the Akwasasne Employment Resource Center. The opening is mentioned on page 5. Its opening shows that if we work together as one community, anything is possible. Steve and Lindsay worked hard to make this happen. Congratulations to our partners in this project, the Akwasasne Area Management Board and the Mohawk Council of Akwasasne.

Don't forget the Annual Wellness Day will be occurring in early August at the IGA. The event is mentioned on page 3. I urge you to attend if you haven't before and to return if you have. It is a lot of fun and your health is important.

With that, happy reading -- enjoy your summer.

Chief Jim Ransom



# Akwesasne Revolving Loan Fund

By: Steven B. Cook

Director of Economic Development

The St. Regis Mohawk Tribe, through the Office of Economic Development will soon be launching the Akwesasne Revolving Loan Fund (ARLF). The ARLF was established to help support the Akwesasne business community, create a diversified economy and generate new employment opportunities.

New and existing businesses will be eligible to apply to the new ARLF. The business must be at least 51% Native owned by a registered member of the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe (over the age of 18 yrs) and must be located on the southern portion of Akwesasne (US side). Existing businesses must have fewer than 50 employees and annual gross revenues of less than one million (\$1,000,000) to qualify.

Loans will range from \$1,000 to up to \$10,000 with payback terms of five years or less. The Loan fund will be administered by the SRMT and interest rates will normally be fixed for the term of the loan.

## Mission

*To promote economic self-sufficiency through the provision of training, technical assistance and financing designed to support the development of new and expanded businesses, which shall support a strengthened and diversified economy, while creating new employment opportunities.*



We are in the process of establishing the Loan Committee and will be seeking community members who may be interested in being members on the Loan Committee. As soon as the Loan Committee is established, we will formally announce and launch the program and begin accepting applications for loans.

We want to see people succeed and will also continue to offer training and technical assistance to new and existing businesses. After-care training will be offered to new loan recipients as part of an after-care program to ensure their success.

Akwesasne continues to flourish in the wake of a recession and by careful planning and programming, we will continue to support a strengthened and diversified economy, while creating new employment opportunities.

Establishment of this Revolving Loan Fund is one more step by the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe in "Helping Build a Better Tomorrow".

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# Tribal Monthly Meeting

.....

Ohiarihko:wa/July 11, 2009  
Chairperson: Chief James Ransom

1. Welcome:
    - Purchase of Burning Sky Building - Chief Monica Jacobs
    - Introduction of Chief Mark Garrow
    - Animal Control Ordinance
    - Reading of Action Items - Tribal Clerk
  2. Discussion on Minutes
  3. Bridge Closing Update
  4. Tribal Electrical Utility Update
  5. Land Dispute Ordinance Update
  6. New Business
  7. Review of Action Items - Tribal Clerk
  8. Closing Adjournment
- Action Item:**
- To look into creating a survey and forming some type of committee to ask questions regarding minutes and meetings, as they did in the past.

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## Wellness Day 2009

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First Americans IGA  
Seskeha/August 6th, 2009  
10 am to 4 pm

### ***Come one, Come all!! It's Wellness Time!!***

Get your blood sugar, cholesterol and blood pressure tested. Learn about all the programs that the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe and Health Services has to offer. Bring the kids to jump on the inflatable jumping units provided by B&D Entertainment and have them participate in the Let's Get Healthy Kids Challenge. Meet Ms. Frizzle and tour the Magic School Bus from the acclaimed PBS kids show. The traveling Magic School Bus is designed inside and out with fun and colorful Magic School Bus artwork. Ms. Frizzle, Liz, and the rest of the gang appear throughout the Bus to give kids fun facts about the exhibits they are seeing!

***Sound like this could make you hungry??*** The Hogansburg-Akwesasne Volunteer Firemen will be cooking their famous chicken BBQ. Try some tasty samples from ESP catering, a new, locally-owned catering business.

***Want a snack??*** Grab a candy apple or popcorn to help support the Akwesasne Boys and Girls Club.

***Need a little entertainment??*** Listen to DJ Brian Garrow or enter our karaoke contest. Registration is at 11:30 with competition from noon to 1pm. \$150.00 prize to the first place contestant.

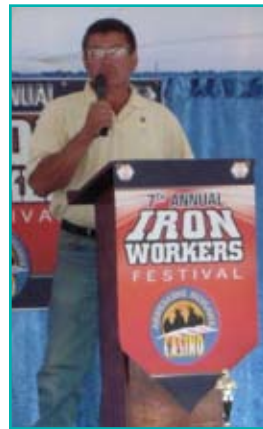
Event to be held rain or shine. Contact: Kim McElwain for more information at 518-358-3141 or [kim@regis.nashville.ihs.gov](mailto:kim@regis.nashville.ihs.gov)



## Iron Workers Festival

The Mohawk iron workers held their annual festival on Saturday July 11th. Despite an afternoon rain delay, the festival took place with food, socializing and contests. After brief introductions and welcomes by Mike Swamp and Jay Tarbell, Director of Casino Marketing, the festival kicked off its events, only to experience a rain delay. Tribal Chief Monica Jacobs and Sub-Chief Pamela Brown also attending the opening of the festival to make opening remarks. The event was well attended by community members, ironworkers and their families.

Contests included the bolt toss, I-beam climb and other activities associated with working high iron. Mohawk ironworkers are recognized nationally and internationally for their unique and specialized construction skills in building skyscrapers and other major construction projects throughout North America.



*Photos by Kadja Esson*



## First Americans IGA Hires New Manager

Born and raised in St. Regis, Jacqueline “Jackee” Jock is taking over the reins of the IGA grocery store located on Route 37, across from the casino. Under her leadership, community members can expect to see some changes and improvements.

Even though the store has struggled recently, Jackee expects to make changes that will make the store more profitable and more convenient for customers. Customers may have noticed that the



Quiznos® franchise closed, but has been replaced by a new sub shop with a similar menu of subs and salads. Plans are to serve soup in the fall and winter. Currently, the Charley Biggs Chicken® franchise is being negotiated. Other changes involve closing the appliance department and the dollar store. Jackee’s other main goals are to review and incorporate quality controls in meat department, train the staff to ensure friendly and professional service and to improve pricing to be more competitive.

The daughter of the late Jake and Leola Jock, Jackee received BA in Business Management and brings 28 years of experience to the job.

“Community feedback is important,” said Jackee. “It was important for me to work in and for the community. I wanted to share my business experience with the community and bring my knowledge and skills home”.

# MHHC Celebrates Anniversary and New Building

The Mohawk Indian Housing Corporation hosted an open house and luncheon on Tuesday, June 23rd at its offices on McGee Road, to dedicate its new building and commemorate its 37th anniversary of providing housing and services.

Director Carol L. Lazore welcomed guests to the event and recognized staff and board members for their years of service. Also on hand for the event were Tribal Chief Barbara Lazore and Sub-Chiefs Stacy Adams and Ron LaFrance. Other officials included Alan Hoxie of the New York State

Division of Housing and Community Renewal, as well as Brooks Washburn, the architect who designed the new building.

Decent, sanitary and safe rental housing construction is the Housing Corporation's priority. They manage a variety of apartment units in the Akwesasne Territory including a 30-unit rental program for the elderly and handicapped.

The Mohawk Indian Housing Corporation can be contacted at (518)358-4860.



## AERC Grand Opening

Thursday, July 9th tribal officials and interested community members formally opened the new Akwesasne Employment Resource Center (AERC) and Job Finding Club with a ribbon-cutting ceremony.

The event started with Master of Ceremonies Steven Cook, Economic Development Director, giving the background of the AERC, "This center represents hope to people seeking employment and creates a venue for employers to find qualified employees for positions they have." The AERC is a partnership between the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe and the Akwesasne Area Management Board supported by the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne and the Mohawk Nation Council of Chiefs. Guest speakers included Chief Jim Ransom and Chief Rachel Roundpoint from the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne. "The Akwesasne Employment Resource Center and the Job Finding Club is a fine example of pulling resources from both sides of the border to deliver programs for the community of Akwesasne as a whole," said Ms. Mamie David of

the Akwesasne Area Management Board.

The ribbon cutting ceremony followed, pictures were taken with tours of the AERC, where handouts and souvenirs were available and refreshments were provided by the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne.

The AERC is located at the corner of State Route 37 and St. Regis Road and provides free services for job seekers and employers. Interested parties can contact the center at 518-358-3047 or to walk in. Hours of operation are M-F, 8-5pm.





# Giving Back

Funeral Donations	\$ 500.00
Community Assistance	750.00
Sports	5,500.00
Recreational	25,000.00
Community Events	30,833.00

# On The Road

Chiefs Barbara Lazore, Jim Ransom, Monica Jacobs, and Sub-Chiefs Ron LaFrance and Pam Brown attended the National Congress of American Indians in Niagara Falls, NY from June 14 - 17, 2009 for the annual mid-year conference.

Chief James Ransom went to Albany, New York for a State Environmental Board Meeting on June 17, 2009.

Chief Ransom, Chief Jacobs and Sub-Chief Brown travelled to Saratoga Springs, New York for the 2009 annual New York State Gaming Summit.

Sub-Chief Ron LaFrance attended the Council of Energy Resources for Tribes meeting in Ignacio, Colorado from June 29 to July 2.

# SRMT Kawennì'ios

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# New Faces

Michelle Benedict	Human Services - Group Home	Administrative Assistant
Nikita G. Elijah	Home Improvement Program	Laborer
Marcy Herne	IHS - Medical Clinic	Community Health Representative
Lawrence Jock	Planning & Infrastructure	Water/Wastewater Operator
Brittany J. Patterson	Human Services - Family Support	Habilitation Aide
Wanda Patterson	IHS - Medical Clinic	Registered Nurse
Trina M. Terrance	Human Services - Medicaid	Medicaid Coordinator

**Summer Students:** Lauren A. Adams, Ratsienhahiens Adams, Amanda Bastedo, Elijah Benedict, Leah Benedict, Karlee Bigtree, Jacy Chubb, Lauren Chubb, Jeremy Cole, Angus J. Cook, Kymberly David, Zachary Dunn, Dylan Herne, Tiffany King, Michael Lazore, Zachery Light, Justin Peters, Cassandra Phillips, Dillon Point, Arow Simon, Elizabeth Smith, Ky Tarbell, Trina M. Terrance, Brayden White

# Calendar

## *Seskeha/August*

- 1st - Tribal Monthly Meeting - 10 am - Community Building
- 6th - Wellness Day - First Americans IGA - 10 am to 4 pm
- 11th - Social Security Administration - 1:30 to 3:30 pm - Tribal Clerks Office
- 16th - PBS Native American Series - 1 pm - *March Point*

# Jobs

- **Administrative Assistant** - Indian Child Welfare Act
- **Nurse Supervisor** - Early Childhood Development
- **Gaming Positions** - Housekeeper
- **Election Board Members** - 3 year terms
- **Tribal Gaming Commissioners**

*Current postings and complete job descriptions are available online at: [www.srmt-nsn.gov](http://www.srmt-nsn.gov)*



## We Don't Serve Teens

*By Tiffany Leabo, Prevention Educator*

Summer is finally here!

For many teens this means they are free to enjoy more time with friends swimming in the pool and enjoying many other activities. It is a time of more freedom in which they have no school, may stay up later, and sleep in late.

With summer also comes an increase in the risk of teen drinking. Teen drunk-driving accidents and deaths are highest during these months. It is also a time when teens may have less adult supervision.

### St. Regis Mohawk Alcohol & Chemical Dependency Prevention Program.

“We Don't Serve Teens” offers these practical tips to help you stop teenage drinking:

**Tip #1:** Tell your teen the minimum legal drinking age is 21, and that drinking can cause serious health and safety consequences and legal consequences for the person who provides the alcohol.

**Tip #2:** Tell your friends that since the legal drinking age was raised to 21 in the 1980s, teen drinking and binge drinking have decreased substantially.

**Tip #3:** Keep track of the alcohol in your home. Make sure teens can't get into it without your knowledge.

**Tip #4:** Be frank about telling other parents that you don't want them serving alcohol to your teen or condoning teen drinking.

**Tip #5:** Talk to adults who host teen parties. Let them know that most adults agree that it is not okay to serve alcohol to someone else's teen.

With these tips in mind get out there and have some safe fun in the sun.

## Internet Dos and Don'ts

*By Todd Conners, Network Security Specialist*

The Internet is a great resource with so much valuable information that can be accessed with the click of a button. With so much different types of content online, it is also important to know what your children are doing on the Internet. Unfortunately there are individuals out there who exploit others using online services or the internet. The guidelines one uses for themselves and the supervision one applies to their children in the real world should apply to online activity. For example you are taught as a child to not speak to strangers, but yet some engage in online activities with complete strangers. The best way to protect yourself and your children is to learn how to use the Internet safely.

### Happy Surfing and be safe!

Here are some tips that could keep you and your children safe:

**Tip #1:** Keep your personal information safe. (real name, telephone number or address)

**Tip #2:** Never exchange photographs over the Internet

**Tip #3:** Never advertise vacation plans or your current location.

**Tip #4:** Keep out of private chat rooms.

**Tip #5:** Keep your family PC in a common area such as the living room or dining room.

**Tip #6:** Never agree to meet any stranger in person you met online.

**Tip #7:** Never accept anything a person says online at face value.

**Tip #8:** Popular social networking sites, (Myspace, Facebook et cetera) contain viruses, spyware and malware.

**Tip #9:** Do not click on random links.

The Internet is not anonymous - never put anything online that you do not want to be made public.



# Rare and Threatened Turtle Found in Akwesasne

*By Amberdawn LaFrance*

On June 20th, a Blanding's Turtle, a threatened species in New York State, was found by Jacoba North on the centerline of Route 37 between IGA and the Casino. Jacoba contacted the SRMT Environment Division, who then contacted Glenn Johnson, Chair of the Department of Biology of the SUNY College at Potsdam. According to Johnson, the turtle is an adult female and she was not gravid (with eggs) when she was found. She may have been returning to her wetland following egg-laying (the timing is certainly right), but we cannot be sure. Johnson estimates her age to be at least 25 years, probably older.

On June 25th, she was released by Glenn Johnson and Environment Division Staff into a wetland just West of the fire station on Route 37 near where she was originally found.

She has been marked with a shell notching and has been given an internal PIT (passive integrated transponder) tag as a permanent identification. Johnson has also given her a radio tag so that her movements can be tracked. "We hope to locate her in her true home wetland and potentially more Blanding's Turtles. My plan is to get a fix on her signal once every 2-3 weeks until she overwinters, typically by end of October or early November. The radio tag will last about 1.5 years, but I usually replace them every year for turtles I wish to track for a long time. Currently I am tracking nine Blanding's turtles in Coles Creek State Park and seven on private wetlands in Madrid." said Glenn Johnson in an email to the SRMT Environment Division.

## ***What's So Important About Blanding's Turtles?***

The Blanding's Turtle distribution is around the Great Lakes region and Akwesasne is at the edge of its core

Eastern range.

A major problem facing the Blanding's turtle in New York State is the destruction of its habitat through the construction of housing developments, shoreline property and other summer recreation facilities. Roads which cross migration routes between the ponds where the turtles hibernate and the areas where they nest

are particularly hazardous to the species. Nesting habitat may be far from wetlands and includes plowed agricultural fields, pastures, lawns, and roadsides ([www.dec.ny.gov](http://www.dec.ny.gov)).

Glenn Johnson adds, "There is a remote possibility she was released in the area by a person, but I believe that she was from that area. This location is the furthest east, by at least 10 miles, that we have found this species. It is a first for Franklin County and a first for Akwesasne tribal land (at least officially)".

## ***What Can You Do To Help Turtles In Akwesasne?***

- Slow down while driving near wetlands and other areas known to have turtles.
- Stay away from turtle nesting grounds and try not to drive or mow over turtle nests.
- If you see a turtle on the road, stop, and carry it to the side it was headed. For snapping turtles or other large turtles, push them across with a stick.
- Learn about Akwesasne's wetlands and other natural habitats and learn how to preserve and protect them.

## ***What To Do If You Think You Have Found A Blanding's Turtle:***

If possible, capture it without harming it. Never pick up a turtle by the tail. Call The SRMT Environment Division 518-358-5937.



*Photos by Amberdawn LaFrance*

Above: A Blanding's turtle distinguishing feature is their bright yellow chin and throat.

Below: James Costello, SRMT Environmental Technician and Glenn Johnson release the turtle in a swampy wetland.



# Tribe Hosts Annual Inauguration Ceremony

*Ohiarihko:wa/July 1, 2009*



Despite a sudden and heavy downpour of rain, Tribal Court Judge PJ Herne administered the Oath of Office to newly elected Tribal Chief Mark Garrow on Wednesday, July 1st, along with re-elected Sub Chief Stacy Adams and re-elected Tribal Clerk Corleen Jackson-Jacco. Approximately 200 people turned out for the

event, which included a delicious luncheon catered by ESP Catering. David Staddon, Director of Public Information, served as master of ceremonies for the ceremonies, made introductions and provided welcoming remarks. Tribal Chiefs James Ransom and Monica Jacobs also provided words of welcome and updates on current events. Both Chief Ransom and Jacobs expressed their appreciation to outgoing Tribal Chief Barbara's Lazore for her many years of service to the community.

*Akwesasne, I've heard  
your call. I've listened and  
understood your concerns.  
I've pledged my committment  
to service. Now, let's get to  
work!*

*-Chief Mark H. Garrow*



*Newly-elected Tribal Chief Mark Garrow*

Tribal Chief Mark Garrow gave an inspirational inauguration speech illustrating many points with stories from his life. He began his duties as Tribal Chief on July 1st and will serve a three-year term in office.





*Tribal Clerk Corleen Jackson-Jacco being sworn in*



The rain was so heavy at times, that it delayed the activities from time to time, but the rain finally stopped and the sun came out. In an unprecedented break from tradition in Indian country, the ceremonies finished ahead of schedule.



*Inauguration guests having lunch*



*Sub-Chief Stacy Adams and Tribal Court Judge PJ Herne*

“My intention is to listen, to work as hard as I can and to do my very best.”  
-Chief Mark H. Garrow



Although most developed nations have government

*By Angela Benedict-Dunn*



So next time someone tells you to quiet down or tune it down or turn it down you may want to listen, not just for our own well being but for the next seven generations.

*The idea of this column is to promote clean air practices in each of our homes, in our personal behaviors throughout each day, in line with our Mohawk cultural value system. In no way is this column meant to be an indictment of anything that you choose to do. Instead, this is in place as a simple thought-provoking tool, to reveal some good ideas and some interesting notions. Please present any comments, complaints, or questions to Angela Benedict-Dunn, Air Quality Manager or Ken Jock, Environment Division Director. We welcome your thoughts and opinions.*

# Graduates 2009

## *St. Regis Mohawk Tribal Police Welcome Three New Graduates*



*Left to Right: Officer Jordan Lauzon, Tribal Police Chief Andrew Thomas, Officer Willie Ransom and Officer Karonienhawwi Thomas.*



*The Ransom family, Orlo, Alma, Logan, Emma and Kim celebrate with Willie.*

*Right:* Myan Adams graduates from Northfield Academy. Cousin Rylan sees if the hat fits.

Myan is the son of Amanda Adams, employee at the Tribe's Office for the Aging, and Tom Smart. Myan will be attending Cornell University in the fall with the eventual goal of becoming a Physiotherapist.

He will be playing with the Big Red Lacrosse Team in the Division One NCAA.

Following 16 weeks of intensive training, the Zone 9 - Plattsburgh Police Academy graduated its Basic Police Training class of 15 trainees. Zone 9 includes law enforcement agencies in Franklin, Clinton and Essex counties. The ceremony was held at the Clinton Community College in Plattsburgh.

Some students enter the Plattsburgh Police Academy as police officer trainees after they have been accepted for employment by a law enforcement agency. The agency then sponsors the trainee in the academy's basic police training program. In other cases, however, students are accepted directly into the academy, and then find employment after graduation.

St. Regis Mohawk Tribal Police Officer Willie Ransom received the *Most Improved in Physical Fitness* award. Tribal Chief Monica Jacobs and Sub-Chief Pam Brown joined family and friends of Akwesasne graduates for the ceremonies.





# St. Lawrence University Seeks Host Families For Akwesasne Semester

By Macreena Doyle,  
*Associate Director of University Communications, St. Lawrence University*

St. Lawrence University is seeking host families for students participating in its fall 2010 Akwesasne Semester.

The Akwesasne Semester is a partnership between St. Lawrence, SUNY Potsdam and the Akwesasne Boys and Girls Club. Students participating in this program take all of their classes on the Akwesasne Mohawk Reservation and undertake four-hour-per-week internships at agencies and organizations within the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe. Students are also engaged in volunteer activities, particularly at the Akwesasne Boys and Girls Club, the Akwesasne Freedom School and the St. Regis Mohawk School.

The Akwesasne Semester, along with related volunteering and programming, are generously supported through grant funds awarded by the ALCOA Foundation and support from the ALCOA Massena Operations.

Ten families are needed to host the student participants. This is similar to the University's programs of study abroad, where



students also reside with host families, take classes and participate in internships. Home-stays provide students a much deeper understanding of the cultures, customs and histories of the regions in which they study.

For the 10-week program (late August to mid-November), families need to provide a student with his or her own room, and bed, dresser and desk if possible. Families will also be expected to provide meals.

The program, and the request for host families, will be a topic at the August Tribal Community Meeting. In addition, a series of Community Dinners will be held in September to provide information to the community about the needs and expectations of Akwesasne Semester.

The Community Dinners will be publicized in *Indian Time* in September.

Information about the Akwesasne Semester may also be found online, at <http://www.stlawu.edu/cbl/akwesasnesemester.html>.



# What We've Been Up to the Past 6 Months

*Laura J. Weber, Solid Waste Manager*

It is hard to believe that 2009 is half over. The Solid Waste Program has accomplished much in the past 6 months.

You may remember that we introduced the "John Denver Look-Alike" to you. No it isn't John Denver himself, but our one and only Peter Terrance. Peter has been making site visits to residents and businesses in the community, and collecting information about solid waste disposal practices. Has he visited with you yet? If not, give the Environment Division a call (358-5937) to set up an appointment. Don't worry, Peter won't come with guitar in hand and sing you songs, and it's a good thing because we're not sure about his music talents. He will, though, have a questionnaire and be able to answer any questions about the solid waste program.

We initiated the Keep it Clean Campaign last month. The goal of the campaign is to keep the area around the recycling depot clean and continue providing a free recycling drop-off area for the community to use. In recent years, the area has been used as a dumping ground for garbage. We are asking people to contact the Environment Division (358-5937) if you observe anyone dumping garbage at the depot. We are also emptying the containers more frequently so that people can place their recyclables in the containers.

We also began processing the community's recyclables as a 'single stream'. Single stream means that all collected recyclables are mixed together at the Tribe's transfer station and then transported to a single

stream processing center located near Geneva, NY. The commingled materials undergo a separation process at the center, are baled, and then shipped to various recycling markets. A good video link to learn more about the process can be seen here: [http://www.goodcleantech.com/2009/01/single\\_stream\\_recycling\\_in\\_act.php](http://www.goodcleantech.com/2009/01/single_stream_recycling_in_act.php). We switched to this processing method as a way to reduce costs.

Our spring cleanup has turned into a summer cleanup. This was primarily due to the fact that only 2 solid waste laborers were hired to work. The two-man crew, though, has done an excellent job and we applaud them. The cleanup should be done sometime in Ohiarhko:wa/July.

In an effort to continue providing you quality services, we have spent time in the past 6 months developing our team-building program. We participated in a ½ day training in Ennisko:wa/March.

The training helped us become a high performance team that works together to provide you with excellent service.

The team is also developing a team handbook and reads a weekly newsletter written by the Solid Waste Manager entitled "Less of Me, More of We".

In the next 6 months, we anticipate ordering a transfer trailer that will allow us to improve operations at the transfer station and hold another household hazardous waste collection day in Kentenha/October.

As always, we are here to serve you and provide quality services that you can afford.



**DEPOT IS NOT FOR  
DISPOSAL OF GARBAGE**

**CALL SRMT ENVIRONMENT DIVISION  
IF YOU OBSERVE SOMEONE DUMPING  
GARBAGE**

**518-358-5937**

**Keep it Clean**

**No Garbage at the Depot  
Place All Recyclables  
in Containers**

# MARCH POINT



Mountain Lake PBS  
Native American series on  
Seskéha/August 16th  
at 1:00 p.m.

Cody Nick and Travis, three teens from the Swinomish Indian Tribe, wanted to make a gangster movie or rap video. But instead they were asked to investigate the impact of two oil refineries on their tribal community. March Point follows their journey as they come to understand themselves, the environment and the threat their people face.

For centuries the Swinomish Indian Tribe has relied on the natural resources of the Skagit Valley, through clamming, crabbing, and fishing. Before white settlement tribal people inhabited the valleys, rivers, and shorelines, living off the rich land. But in 1855 most of this land was taken away by the Federal government in the

Treaty of Point Elliott. The Swinomish people were left with basic health care, some fishing rights and a small reservation. In the late 1950s, two oil refineries were built on March Point, an area that was once part of the Swinomish reservation by treaty. Over time, the presence of the refineries has negatively affected the health of the water and land and the very fabric of cultural tradition itself. March Point is the story of three boys awakening to the destruction these refineries have wrought in their communities. Ambivalent environmental ambassadors at the onset, the boys grapple with their assignment through humor, sarcasm and a candid self-knowledge.

[www.marchpointmovie.com](http://www.marchpointmovie.com)



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